

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 173868

E.O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 2/4/82
TAGS: PINS
SUBJECT: TERRORISM RESEARCH PROJECT

REF: A-6840, AUGUST 8, 1973

HEREWITH ARE PARTS OF STATE 023142, DATED FEBRUARY 4,
1974:

1. QUOTE: AS ANNOUNCED IN REFERENCE A, AN INDEPENDENT
RESEARCH ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN CONTRACTED BY DEPARTMENT,
IN COOPERATION WITH DEFENSE, TO CONDUCT THOROUGH STUDY
OF PROBLEMS OF POLITICAL KIDNAPPING, INCLUDING THE BARGAIN-
ING PROCESS WITH TERRORISTS' HOLDING HOSTAGES. THAT STUDY,
NOW IN PROGRESS WILL COVER FOUR MAIN ASPECTS: (1) EXTERNAL
FACTORS; (2) EXPERIENCES OF HOSTAGES; (3) POSSIBLE
APPLICATIONS OF TECHNOLOGY; AND (4) IMPROVEMENT IN U.S.
HANDLING OF SUCH INCIDENTS. VEHICLE FOR GATHERING
INFORMATION ON THESE FOUR ASPECTS IS SERIES OF APPROX-
IMATELY 20 CASE STUDIES OF BARGAINING SITUATIONS, WHICH
INCLUDE BOTH U.S. AND FOREIGN OFFICIALS, CIVILIAN AND
MILITARY OFFICIALS, AND OFFICIALS IN BOTH UNKNOWN AND
"BARRICADE" SITUATIONS. PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF STUDY HAVE
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RECENTLY BEEN BRIEFED TO WORKING GROUP OF CABINET COMMITTEE

TO COMBAT TERRORISM. UNQUOTE.

4. QUOTE: SUBJECT MATTER IS, OF COURSE, SENSITIVE. IT IS THUS NECESSARY THAT RESEARCHERS' VISITS BE HANDLED WITH UTMOST DISCRETION. RAND CORPORATION HAS ITSELF ASKED DEPARTMENT TO EMPHASIZE THIS POINT. THE RESEARCHERS MAY BE PRESENTED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AS MEMBERS OF PRIVATE RESEARCH ORGANIZATION CONDUCTING RESEARCH FOR USG; THEIR DISCUSSIONS SHOULD BE REGARDED THEREFORE AS INFORMAL AND UNOFFICIAL. LOW-KEY APPROACH WITH A FEW LOCAL OFFICIALS WHOSE DISCRETION CAN BE RELIED UPON IS CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE. RAND PREFERENCES THAT ITS ASSOCIATION WITH PROJECT REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT BE REVEALED PUBLICLY. UNQUOTE.

6. QUOTE: POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO GIVE RESEARCHERS FULLEST APPROPRIATE SUPPORT IN THIS SURVEY, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO LEAD TO GUIDELINES FOR POTENTIAL HOSTAGES AS WELL AS FOR THOSE NEGOTIATING THEIR RELEASE. UNQUOTE.

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